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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Giorgos C. Zacharia  
Serial No: 09/709,989  
Filed: November 10, 2000  
For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR ASCRIBING A REPUTATION TO AN ENTITY FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF ANOTHER ENTITY  
Confirmation No.: 4272  
Examiner: Stimpak, J.  
Art Unit: 3623

RECEIVED

APR 18 2003

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*Daniel P. McHugh*  
Signature

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 11, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE ABSTRACT

**Please amend the Abstract to read as follows:**

A personalized ratee reputation of a first entity from the perspective of a second entity is determined. The second entity is connected by one or more rating paths to the first entity. A breadth-first search is performed, beginning at the second entity, to determine, from the one or more rating paths, one or more first rating paths that have a first length equal to a shortest length between the first entity and the second entity. For each determined first rating path, a third entity on the first rating path that has a level equal to one less than the first length is identified. For each identified third entity, a first rating of the first entity provided by the third entity is determined, and the first ratings are combined. The personalized ratee reputation is then produced by weighting the combined first ratings by an amount according to the first length.